



Louisville Metro Council

Kelly Downard
District 16 Councilman

Debbie Carroll
Legislative Assistant

August 14, 2009

Dr. Gilles Meloche, Director
Louisville Metro Animal Services
3705 Manslick Road
Louisville, Kentucky 40215

We would like you and any members of your staff that you feel appropriate to appear before the Government Accountability and Oversight Committee on August 26, 2009 between 4:00 pm and 5:30 pm. You will share the time slot with the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. The purpose of your testimony is to review the problems encountered during the recent flood and other areas of animal care. We will not review any items related to the AAA audit as it has not officially been released. Our committee will review that a later date.

In preparation for the hearings please provide this office with the following items by Friday, August 21, 2009. We will disseminate the data to other committee members prior to your appearance.

1.

Disaster Plan Training – You stated on August 11, 2009 in an e-mail to Kip Eatherly, Legislative Assistant to Councilman Glen Stuckel, that eight of your employees attended a disaster plan training within the last month. Please provide us with:
A list of employees that attended.

January 2009, Disaster Animal response Training:

Annie Pendleton, Mark Sabatini, Courtney Gray, Stephanie Sindelar, Jason Gunnoe, Margaret Crigler, Jessica Couch, Nicole Humphrey, Dawn Simpson

June 2009, Emergency Animal Sheltering:

Ann Camp, Adam Hamilton, Annie Pendleton, Holly Hood, Dawn Simpson, Mark Sabatini, Courtney Gray, Margaret Crigler, Anastasia Morrow

A copy of course materials utilized. Scan Copy to follow

The name of the teacher/organization that provided training. – HSUS, Pam Rogers, Diann Wellman, Diane Webber, Melissa Forberg

2. You have stated that your facility is certified to hold up to 350 animals at any one time. Who provided that certification?
 - a. Please provide copy of this statement
3. Kennel Inventory - We would like a copy of your kennel inventory for the day before the flood or day of the flood. Also, we would like a copy of the next one prepared, either Wednesday or Thursday of that week. (We are interested in the total dogs and cats on those inventories.)
 - a. We do not keep hard copies of the daily inventory lists. Chameleon doesn't have the ability to create inventories from the past.
4. Was there a written emergency evacuation plan? Was it followed? Who was responsible for coordinating the evacuation and temporary shelter? Please provide us with a copy of the written plan.
 - a. No
 - b. N/A
 - c. MAS Management Team
5. What other animal welfare agencies offered assistance, including an offer to temporarily house animals and what was the outcome for each?
 - a. We had several animal welfare groups and volunteers helping
 - b. On the day of the flood the agencies who were involved could not house all of the animals
 - c. When at the fairground MAS followed its Transfer Policy to transfer animals to other groups
6. Was assistance offered by any national organizations? If so, when? What assistance was offered and did you accept?
 - a. MAS did receive help and assistance from other organizations. All assistance that conformed with MAS plan, policies, protocols were accepted
7. Did local veterinarians offer assistance and how were they utilized?
 - a. Yes, they were making rounds to assess any animal health issue that can be noted
8. How many animals died as a result of the flooding? There are conflicting reports from volunteers who were present.
 - a. 8 kittens under the age of 5 weeks, 4 kittens under the age of 4 days and one adult cat, and 1 dog

9. Was there security at the Fairgrounds/LMAS during the emergency? There were reports of missing animals. How many were found? How many continue to be missing?
- a. Yes security were provided at the fairgrounds
 - b. The animals that are still missing left MAS, but were not transported or unloaded at the fairgrounds by MAS personnel. One was returned and we still have six that have not been returned
10. Were there injuries sustained by employees, volunteers, veterinarians etc. during evacuation? How can injuries be prevented in the future? Did untrained volunteers pose a problem in regards to dangerous dogs etc.?
- a. We had two bites at the fairgrounds (1 veterinarian and 1 volunteer). One MAS employee cut his hand during the evacuation
 - b. Only allow formally trained individuals assist in future efforts and turn all others away.
 - c. Yes, anyone pose a risk trained or not to handle aggressive animals
11. Were children allowed into the Fairgrounds and LMAS during the emergency?
- a. Yes, if they were supervised.
 - b. No children were involved in the evacuation of dogs. Children did help the evacuation of moving cats in carriers to vehicles.
12. How many animals were euthanized after the flood?
- a. Provided

If you have any questions, please call me at 574-1116. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kelly Downard
Chairman, Government Accountability and Oversight Committee
District 16 Councilman

cc: Government Accountability and Oversight Committee Members